

**(b) Criminal violations**

The Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice shall investigate all alleged or suspected criminal violations of this chapter.

**(c) Violations of this chapter**

No action shall be brought against any individual or person for any violation under this chapter unless and until the Attorney General of the United States has advised the Commission with respect to such action and no such action shall be commenced except by the Attorney General of the United States: *Provided, however*, That nothing in this subsection shall be construed as applying to administrative action taken by the Commission.

(Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, title I, §221, as added Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 958; amended Pub. L. 91-161, §5, Dec. 24, 1969, 83 Stat. 445; Pub. L. 101-647, title XII, §1211, Nov. 29, 1990, 104 Stat. 4833; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 102-486, title IX, §902(a)(8), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2944.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subssecs. (b) and (c), was in the original "this Act", meaning act Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, as added by act Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 919, known as the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2011 of this title and Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

1990—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 101-647 struck out "That no action shall be brought under section 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, or 2276 of this title except by the express direction of the Attorney General: *And provided further*," after "*Provided however*,".

1969—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 91-161 provided that nothing in this subsection should be construed to apply to administrative action taken by the Commission.

**§ 2272. Violation of specific sections**

(a) Whoever willfully violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate, any provision of sections<sup>1</sup> 2077 or 2131 of this title, or whoever unlawfully interferes, attempts to interfere, or conspires to interfere with any recapture or entry under section 2138 of this title, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both, except that whoever commits such an offense with intent to injure the United States or with intent to secure an advantage to any foreign nation shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment for life, or by imprisonment for any term of years or a fine of not more than \$20,000 or both.

(b) Any person who violates, or attempts to conspire to violate, section 2122 of this title shall be fined not more than \$2,000,000 and sentenced to a term of imprisonment not less than 25 years or to imprisonment for life. Any person who, in the course of a violation of section 2122 of this title, uses, attempts or conspires to use, or possesses and threatens to use, any atomic weapon shall be fined not more than \$2,000,000 and imprisoned for not less than 30 years or imprisoned for life. If the death of another results

from a person's violation of section 2122 of this title, the person shall be fined not more than \$2,000,000 and punished by imprisonment for life.

(Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, title I, §222, as added Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 958; amended Pub. L. 91-161, §§2, 3(a), Dec. 24, 1969, 83 Stat. 444; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 102-486, title IX, §902(a)(8), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2944; Pub. L. 108-458, title VI, §6904(b), Dec. 17, 2004, 118 Stat. 3771.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to this section were contained in section 1816(a), (b) of this title, prior to the general amendment and renumbering of act Aug. 1, 1946, by act Aug. 30, 1954.

## AMENDMENTS

2004—Pub. L. 108-458 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a), struck out "2122," after "2077", and added subsec. (b).

1969—Pub. L. 91-161 increased maximum term of imprisonment from five years to ten years for willful violation, or attempted violation of enumerated sections, and struck out applicability of death penalty for violation of same offenses committed with intent to injure the United States, or secure an advantage to any foreign nation.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1969 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 91-161, §7, Dec. 24, 1969, 83 Stat. 445, provided that: "The amendments contained in sections 2 and 3 of this Act [amending this section and sections 2274 and 2276 of this title] shall apply only to offenses under sections 222, 224, 225, and 226 [this section and sections 2274, 2275, and 2276 of this title] which are committed on or after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 24, 1969]. Nothing in section 2 or 3 of this Act shall affect penalties authorized under existing law for offenses under section 222, 224, 225, or 226 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended, committed prior to the date of enactment of this Act."

**§ 2273. Violation of sections****(a) Generally**

Whoever willfully violates, attempts to violate, or conspires to violate, any provision of this chapter for which no criminal penalty is specifically provided or of any regulation or order prescribed or issued under section 2095 or 2201(b), (i), or (o) of this title shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000 or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or both, except that whoever commits such an offense with intent to injure the United States or with intent to secure an advantage to any foreign nation, shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than \$20,000 or by imprisonment for not more than twenty years, or both.

**(b) Construction or supply of components for utilization facilities; impairment of basic components; "basic component" defined; posting at construction sites of utilization facilities and on premises of component fabrication plants**

Any individual director, officer, or employee of a firm constructing, or supplying the components of any utilization facility required to be licensed under section 2133 or 2134(b) of this title who by act or omission, in connection with such construction or supply, knowingly and willfully

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be "section".

violates or causes to be violated, any section of this chapter, any rule, regulation, or order issued thereunder, or any license condition, which violation results, or if undetected could have resulted, in a significant impairment of a basic component of such a facility shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not more than \$25,000 for each day of violation, or to imprisonment not to exceed two years, or both. If the conviction is for a violation committed after a first conviction under this subsection, punishment shall be a fine of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than two years, or both. For the purposes of this subsection, the term “basic component” means a facility structure, system, component or part thereof necessary to assure—

- (1) the integrity of the reactor coolant pressure boundary,
- (2) the capability to shut-down the facility and maintain it in a safe shut-down condition, or
- (3) the capability to prevent or mitigate the consequences of accidents which could result in an unplanned offsite release of quantities of fission products in excess of the limits established by the Commission.

The provisions of this subsection shall be prominently posted at each site where a utilization facility required to be licensed under section 2133 or 2134(b) of this title is under construction and on the premises of each plant where components for such a facility are fabricated.

#### (c) Criminal penalties

Any individual director, officer or employee of a person indemnified under an agreement of indemnification under section 2210(d) of this title (or of a subcontractor or supplier thereto) who, by act or omission, knowingly and willfully violates or causes to be violated any section of this chapter or any applicable nuclear safety-related rule, regulation or order issued thereunder by the Secretary of Energy (or expressly incorporated by reference by the Secretary for purposes of nuclear safety, except any rule, regulation, or order issued by the Secretary of Transportation), which violation results in or, if undetected, would have resulted in a nuclear incident as defined in section 2014(q) of this title shall, upon conviction, notwithstanding section 3571 of title 18, be subject to a fine of not more than \$25,000, or to imprisonment not to exceed two years, or both. If the conviction is for a violation committed after the first conviction under this subsection, notwithstanding section 3571 of title 18, punishment shall be a fine of not more than \$50,000, or imprisonment for not more than five years, or both.

(Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, title I, §223, as added Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 958; amended Pub. L. 90-190, §12, Dec. 14, 1967, 81 Stat. 578; Pub. L. 91-161, §6, Dec. 24, 1969, 83 Stat. 445; Pub. L. 96-295, title II, §203, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 786; Pub. L. 100-408, §18, Aug. 20, 1988, 102 Stat. 1083; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 102-486, title IX, §902(a)(8), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2944.)

#### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning act Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, as added

by act Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 919, known as the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2011 of this title and Tables.

#### AMENDMENTS

- 1988—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 100-408 added subsec. (c).  
 1980—Pub. L. 96-295 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).  
 1969—Pub. L. 91-161 limited application of section to instances where no criminal penalties have been provided.  
 1967—Pub. L. 90-190 substituted “(o)” for “(p)”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 100-408 effective Aug. 20, 1988, but inapplicable to any violation occurring before Aug. 20, 1988, see section 20 of Pub. L. 100-408, set out as a note under section 2014 of this title.

#### § 2274. Communication of Restricted Data

Whoever, lawfully or unlawfully, having possession of, access to, control over, or being entrusted with any document, writing, sketch, photograph, plan, model, instrument, appliance, note, or information involving or incorporating Restricted Data—

(a) communicates, transmits, or discloses the same to any individual or person, or attempts or conspires to do any of the foregoing, with intent to injure the United States or with intent to secure an advantage to any foreign nation, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by imprisonment for life, or by imprisonment for any term of years or a fine of not more than \$100,000 or both;

(b) communicates, transmits, or discloses the same to any individual or person, or attempts or conspires to do any of the foregoing, with reason to believe such data will be utilized to injure the United States or to secure an advantage to any foreign nation, shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$50,000 or imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both.

(Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, title I, §224, as added Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 958; amended Pub. L. 91-161, §3(b), Dec. 24, 1969, 83 Stat. 444; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 102-486, title IX, §902(a)(8), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2944; Pub. L. 106-65, div. C, title XXXI, §3148(a), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 938; Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title X, §1087(g)(9)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-294.)

#### AMENDMENTS

- 2000—Cl. (b). Pub. L. 106-398 substituted “\$50,000” for “\$500,000”.  
 1999—Cl. (a). Pub. L. 106-65, §3148(a)(1), substituted “\$100,000” for “\$20,000”.  
 Cl. (b). Pub. L. 106-65, §3148(a)(2), substituted “\$500,000” for “\$10,000”.

1969—Pub. L. 91-161 made death penalty inapplicable for willful violation, or attempted violation of this section with intent to injure the United States, or secure an advantage for any foreign nation.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 106-398, §1 [[div. A], title X, §1087(g)(9)], Oct. 30, 2000, 114 Stat. 1654, 1654A-294, provided that the amendment made by that section is effective as of Oct. 5, 1999.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1969 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 91-161 applicable to offenses committed on or after Dec. 24, 1969, see section 7 of